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# BULLETIN

OF

## THE PENNSYLVANIA MUSEUM

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FEBRUARY, 1919

SEVENTEENTH YEAR

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### THE RETURN OF THE DIRECTOR

The Director of the Pennsylvania Museum, Memorial Hall, Mr. Langdon Warner, returned last week from the Far East and has resumed the duties of his office. These, during his absence have been ably discharged by his friend, Mr. Hamilton Bell of England and New York, who most obligingly and at some personal inconvenience undertook to fill the vacancy left by his departure on Government business, in November 1918.

In the course of his leave of absence which lasted just one year, after reporting to the United States Embassy at Tokyo, now in charge of our brilliant fellow citizen, Hon. Roland S. Morris, Mr. Warner crossed over to Siberia and after some time in Vladivostok, was appointed Vice-Consul at Harbin, and thence undertook a series of investigations into conditions and the factions now making a nightmare of the entire Siberian region. In the course of his arduous journeys through this distracted country, where the Czeco-Slovaks and Russians have been disputing control to the German-led Bolsheviks, many are the scenes of blood-curdling horror which he has witnessed, and he has returned with a firmly implanted conviction of the fineness of the Czeco-Slovaks' courage and aims, only equalled by the brutality of their Russo-German opponents. The story Mr. Warner has to tell is a most thrilling one. And it is nice to know that having gone through so much, he has come back alive.

The condition of the country necessarily made it impossible to obtain much museum material suitable for the Philadelphia institution of which he is the Director. He secured, however, at least one or more good pieces which came in his way.

During his absence, Mr. Bell has carried out a number of changes in the Memorial Hall Collections which Mr. Warner had planned, retiring much material and re-classifying a number of series, both in the Museum proper and in the Wiltach Gallery, where he gave Mr. Joseph E. Widener the benefit of his experience of art matters in the re-arranging of the pictures.

At the January meeting of the Museum Committee a resolution carrying with it a vote of thanks to the Acting Director for the services rendered the Museum in so ably filling the vacancy left by the Director's absence, was passed unanimously with expressions of sincere regret at parting with him.

While with us, Mr. Bell, by his kindly personality endeared himself to the employees of the Museum who personally and collectively expressed their regret at losing him, by offering him a handsome gold-headed cane, a slight token of their sincere regard.

S. Y. S.



LANGDON WARNER  
Director of the Museum  
From a drawing by Alexander R. James